

Application Serial No. 10/686,378
Group Art Unit 3683

HK Ref. 091781.6

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously amended): A column unit to adjust the height of a product comprising:
 - a base tube;
 - a spindle movable up and down in the base tube said spindle having an external surface, an upper portion and a lower end;
 - a cylindrical shaped guide sleeve fixed onto the external surface of the spindle from an upper portion of the spindle to a height lower than the lower end of the spindle, movable up and down along with the spindle; and
 - an adhesive layer applied between the guide sleeve and the spindle to fixably adhere the guide sleeve to the spindle.
2. (Original): A column unit according to claim 1, further comprising a bushing placed between the internal surface of a tube guide placed inside of the base tube and the external surface of the guide sleeve to enhance supporting strength of the spindle.
3. (Original): A column unit according to claim 2, wherein the bushing has a lubricant layer therein.

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4. (Original): The column unit according to claim 2, wherein the bushing is fixed to the internal surface of the tube guide to allow its upper portion to be positioned higher than upper portion of the tube guide.

5. (Original): The column unit according to claim 2, wherein the bushing is cylindrical shape.

6. (Original): The column unit according to claim 2, wherein the bushing has a plurality of vertical grooves therein.

7. (Original): The column unit according to claim 3, wherein the lubricant layer is a nylon layer.

8. (Original): The column unit according to claim 7, wherein the nylon layer has a thickness of 2~1000 μm .

9. (Original): The column unit according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive layer has a thickness of 0.005~0.6 mm.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

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14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)